Tells the Facts and Names the Names

$2.50

CounterPunch

December 16-31, 2001 *Alexander Cockburn and Jeffrey St. Clair* VOL. 8, NO. 22

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Afghanistan Aprés Taliban

Pebbles and Poppies

First the tumult of war, now the fruits of peace. From Afghanistan come tidings of the new era of tolerance now that the Taliban have, at least for the time being, slunk off the stage of history. Shortly before the turn of the year Justice Minister Karimi declared Afghanistan's new government will still impose sharia Islamic law on its people but with less harshness.

The details were fleshed out by Judge Ahamat Ullha Zarif, who has told the French news agency Agence France Presse that public executions and amputations will continue, but there will be changes: "For example, the Taliban used to hang the victim's body in public for four days. We will only hang the body for a short time, say 15 minutes." Very Warholian.

Kabul's sports stadium, financed by the International Monetary Fund, was where the Taliban used to carry out public executions and amputations every Friday. No longer. "The stadium is for sports. We will find a new place for public executions," says Judge Zarif.

Judge Zarif makes it clear that the ultimate penalty will remain in force for adulterers, both male and female. They would still be stoned to death, Zarif told the French news agency, "but we will use only small stones."

Now there's progress!

This adjustment in the size of the executive munitions will, the judge explains, allow the condemned person a chance to escape. "If they are able to run away, they are free."

It turns out that this avenue to safety is only available to those adulterers who admit their sexual misdeeds. "Those who refuse to confess their wrongdoing and are condemned by a judge will have their hands and feet bound so that they cannot run away. They will certainly be stoned to death", Zarif says.

The winds of change can be felt on another front. Afghanistan's farmers faced bankruptcy after Mullah Omar ordered a halt to the planting of opium poppies last year. In the years that the CIA was rallying Afghanistan's landlords and mullahs against the Soviets, Afghanistan became the West's prime supplier of heroin and morphine. Mullah Omar's ban has been variously explained as an effort to ingratiate the Taliban regime with the US in hopes of getting aid, or as an effort to restrict supply and thus hike prices.

Whatever the motive, the prohibition led to a 96 per cent fall in Afghanistan's production of raw opium, from more than 453,500 kilograms in 1999 to 18,500 kilograms this year, according to the United Nations Drug Control Program.

Now news reports, such as this from Craig Nelson, describe renewed poppy cultivation in lyrical terms: 'Everyone is planting, says Ashoqullah, a 25-year-old landowner. "In a few months, these fields will be covered in a blanket of spectacular red and white flowers. We'll draw the ooze from the flower bulbs, pack it in plastic bags or small soap cartons and sell it at the bazaar.'

From the bazaars the raw opium will make its way north or south to processing labs in Pakistan or Tadzhikistan, two members of the great anti-terror coalition, and then westward to the veins of addicts in Europe and the United States.

But is not Afghanistan's swift return to preeminent status as the West's number one heroin supplier surely a small price to pay for the extinction of the Taliban and routing of Al Qaeda?

(**Pebbles** *continued on page 2)*

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Our Little Secrets

Alas, this raises the question of just how extinct the Taliban is. Fudge the numbers as you may, not too many of them ended up dead, aside from those prisoners killed at Mazar-i-Sharif or suffocated on their way to other prisons. Presumably the rest dispersed to their homes, awaiting further instructions from their Pakistani supervisors.

Osama bin Laden? Suppose he pops up in Kashmir, calling for renewed jihad against the Indian occupiers. Now that would set the cat among the pigeons.

So perhaps it's not quite so clear how much has really been achieved in the great crusade, but for sure, it is a famous victory!

Poisoned Wells

Milton Bearden is the loudmouth and bully who ran CIA aid to the Mujaheddin at the end of the war against the Soviets at the end of the 1980s. He likes to go around saying (a) that he brought down the Soviet Union more or less single-handedly and (b) the CIA had absolutely no contact of any shape or kind with Osama and the like and furthermore really had no control over to whom the wicked Pakistanis disbursed the US aid. This latter (wholly false) view has gained wide currency - especially in Peter Bergin's biography of Osama now riding high in the best seller charts. It (Bearden's message) is in any case unlikely to be challenged in the New York Times, since Bearden is currently collaborating in a book about his exploits with....James Risen, CIA correspondent for the NYT, who got the job after Tim Weiner was removed from the beat because the Operations Directorate didn't like him.

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Published twice monthly except August, 22 issues a year:
$40 individuals,
$100 institutions/supporters
$30 student/low-income
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CounterPunch
3220 N. St., NW, PMB 346
Washington, DC, 20007-2829
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So Prescient

"It won't be bombs that settle the issue, and the Pentagon has small appetite for any substantial foray into Afghanistan on the ground. Cash will be the lubricant of victory, and since unlimited supplies of cash are available to buy support for the US among the Afghan factions, it may not be long before the Taliban are chased out."

Who wrote those perspicacious words back in the second week of October? You've guessed it: your trusty CounterPunch co-editors. And at that time we also cited CounterPuncher Ken McCarthy, editor of Brasscheck, who sent us this assessment of the first anthrax death, in Florida.

Ken wrote: "FACTS: 1. The man who died of Anthrax last week was a photo editor at the Sun, a tabloid. 2. A fellow employee there has been recently diagnosed with Anthrax as well. 3. Inhaled Anthrax, the type these men have contracted, is exceedingly rare (only 18 cases in the US in the last 100 years) 4. Anthrax spores have been found in their workplace. The building which houses the Sun, the Globe and the National Enquirer has been closed as a result. 5. American Media Inc, the owner of the Sun etc., has connections to the US Central Intelligence Agency. 5. Boca Raton, the home of the Sun, is also the location of a plant owned by Product Ingredient Technologies, a company with links to the Bush Sr. White House that manufactured chemical warfare agents that were exported to Iraq with US government approval in the late 1980s.

Ken cited as his source "Bringing the War Home" by William Thomas. Under that same program, 19 containers of Anthrax bacteria were supplied to Iraq in 1988 by the American Type Culture Collection company, located near Fort Detrick, MD, the site of the US Army's high security germ warfare program.

All these prescient reflections aroused the ire of a fellow called Ross Douthat of National Review who slotted our prose into NR's "Kumbaya Watch", subheadlined "the latest in foolish commentary". The folks at National Review helpfully linked their readers to the CounterPunch website, which turned out to be a big favor to their readers who have been using the link as an escape tunnel from NR's weekly absurdities, to CounterPunch where they emerge from the tunnel to frolic in the wellspring of Pure Truth. Scarce a day goes by but that CounterPunch welcomes fresh refugees from NR, who clearly feel that no matter how unusual or radical our views might at first appear, they do at least bear some ascertainable relationship to reality.

Somehow we forgot to tell Ken that he'd been dignified with a mention in Kumbaya Watch but in early January he came across Douthat's piece and sent him the following note:

"Mr. Douthat: I found my name in your magazine. Apparently, back in October you found some of my observations worth ridiculing. Well, let's see who is ridiculous: The anthrax at the National Enquirer did turn out to be manufactured and not from a natural source; it was part of a systematic attack on US media outlets, not an isolated case; and it now accepted to have come from the arsenal of the United States government.

"I made what turned out to be these entirely accurate projections when the media was still presenting the first anthrax death as an isolated case. Your contribution to the dialogue was 'Kumbaya Watch: Conspiracy Cockburn.' Mr. Cockburn did get one thing wrong. I don't live in Tallahassee. It didn't require a gift of prophecy or a taste for conspiracy theories to project the obvious from the facts available to the literate on day one: inhalation anthrax is as rare as rare can be, the victim worked at a high profile US media outlet, and there are only a handful of sources worldwide of anthrax that is capable of going from envelope to lung and most of them are right here in the US. The real mystery to me is how someone as mediocre as yourself is given a regular platform to display how poorly informed you are.

"There are other sources of information in this world besides your television set, a lesson not lost on Mr. Cockburn for which he deserves praise. You, on the other hand, inspire a new verse in the old Kumbaya song: "Someone's a clueless twerp, my Lord, Kumbaya." And yes, the Bush family did have an involvement with a company that once provided chemical arms to Iraq coincidentally in the very same town the National

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Enquirer is located and the National Enquirer media empire was founded (on a mysterious shoe string) by a former CIA man. History and, at the very least, a geographically interesting sidebar to the story.

"As George Seldes once said, even the gods can't change history. To which I would add, no matter how many hacks they hire to muddy the waters. Ken McCarthy."

So far, no word from the slack-jawed Douthat.

THE ECONOMY IN SNOW COUNTRY

Don't worry, the economy will sink George Bush. Everywhere we look it's nearing devastation. A friend who runs a trailer park in South Carolina says the working folk can't afford his $200 month rents and are falling behind. In the Northwest people are being laid off in droves fom Nordstrom, from timber companies, from Enron subsidiaries. It's the same all over. People will stick with George just so long as they think the US has to present a unified front to the Enemy, and not much longer.

Christmas morning found CounterPunch co-editor Cockburn walking with the dog Jasper up a street called Slalom, approximately 6,500 feet above sea level in the Sierra, on the outskirts of the town of Truckee, which lies athwart Interstate 80, not far from Lake Tahoe. Jasper and Cockburn walked past some thirty houses, each of them selling for around a million dollars. All but three were vacant, their owners either preferring their third homes in Hawai'i, or discussing the beauties of Chapter 11 in some bankruptcy court. If the famished Donner party had staggered out of their graves and into those stately homes on Slalom, they probably would have found as little provender as they did on the snowbound shores of Mountain Lake in the winter of 1846/7.

There's not too much to recommend Truckee, whose past is freighted not only with cannibalism but also bloody eviction of the Chinese who had come to the mountains to build the transcontinental railroad. Of the peak Chinese work force of 10,000, some 1,000 remained in Truckee once the job was done. By the 1870s a national depression was fuelling racism and the stage was set for one of California's most terrible chapters. "The Chinks must go" was the cry in the saloons of Truckee, and a Caucasian League began to burn down Chinese dwellings. The Chinese fought back, but were finally burned out in 1880. According to Alexander Saxon, author of The Indispensable Enemy, Truckee set the pace for anti-Chinese activities throughout the west.

THE SILLIEST?

Of the year, of the decade? Oh, surely it must be Peggy Noonan. We gave up saving her absurdities, but here's a slab we put in storage from La Noonan some time in late September: "a certain style of manliness is once again being honored and celebrated in our country since Sept. 11...I am speaking of masculine men, men who push things and pull things and haul things and build things, men who charge up the stairs in a hundred pounds of gear and tell everyone else where to go to be safe. Men who are welders, who do construction, men who are cops and firemen. They are all of them, one way or another, the men who put the fire out, the men who are digging the rubble out, and the men who will build whatever takes its place. And their style is back in style." And thus it was that Noonan discovered working people, with just the sort of excited, yet somehow patronising lilt in her voice that Lady Chatterley had in her first interchanges with the manly gamekeeper Mellers.

In a book, The 776 Stupidest Things Ever Said, Noonan is cited for the following gem: "I first saw [President Reagan] as a foot, highly polished brown cordovan wagging merrily on a hassock. I spied it through the door. It was a beautiful foot, sleek. Such casual elegance and clean lines! But not a big foot, not formidable, maybe a little frail. I imagined cradling it in my arms, protecting it from unsmooth roads."

HITCHENS, SANS APOLOGIES

We took a call from CounterPuncher Joe Bailer of Washington DC the other day who told us he loved the product, but didn't care for the "sniping at Christopher Hitchens", suggesting that we should be uniting against the common enemy. From time to time we get similar calls, so let's just clarify why we mention CH in a disobliging fashion once in a while. First, Hitchens these days shares absolutely nothing in common with CounterPunch or the left. He strongly supported the war and the bombing of Afghanistan, which he now declares to be an immense success. He says he thinks the laudably radical force in British politics in the past generation was Margaret Thatcher. He thinks "globalization" along the lines marked by the WTO is great and that the opponents of the WTO are stupid and reactionary. He claims it was the libertarian right which blazed the trail in opposition to the death penalty and the drug war. He thinks capitalism is the estimable radical force in the world today.

The last time we heard these views out of Hitchens's mouth was on the Nation cruise, where Cockburn shared a panel with him on "the future of the left". Cockburn expressed doubts as to whether too many rightwingers were standing outside Carryl Chessman's prison on the night of his execution, and co-panelist Ira Glasser, former ACLU boss, described how he first persuaded Bill Buckley towards heterodoxy on the drug war. Afterwards many Nation cruisers mumbled that surely Hitchens was joking. The man can say all manner of repulsive things and decent folks like Bailer will chuckle, cut him more slack and chide those who express revulsion at Hitchens's endless grandstanding as a former leftist whose role is now to expose the fallacies of the left.

Hitchens thinks "globalization" along the lines marked by the WTO is great and that the opponents of the WTO are stupid and reactionary.

Folks, the guy's only relationship to radicalism is that it's still useful for him to be presented on talk shows as The Leftist who Loves Bombs, where he looses off crowd-pleasers like his carefully calculated piece of demagoguery that the heroism of passengers on AA flight 97 was "worth more than all the works of Noam Chomsky", whom he takes care to denounce for being "soft on fascism".

We wouldn't give a toss about Hitchens' views, except he is a public demagogue, with the capacity for doing damage in the manner of a Podhoretz or Peretz. CounterPunchers don't care when we attack the latter two, so why the reserve about Hitchens? He's pretty much hip to hip with David Horowitz these days and would CounterPunchers kick up if we attacked HIM? CP

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Send Them What You Can:
Our Annual Pick of Ten Groups That Deserve Your Support

A few years ago our friend Pete Seeger admonished us to give CounterPunch readers a regular dose of good news to temper the bad. We're happy to take his advice. One of the most popular features continues to be our annual list of groups that are doing worthy and too often unheralded work on health care, economic justice, prisoners rights, anti-war organizing and radical environmentalism. Often these are organizations you've never heard of, but in the past you've responded generously, aiding their meagre budgets and bolstering their spirits. Abe Bonowitz of Citizens United Against the Death Penalty said that the money and letters of support his group received after last year's listing came "as a light in the darkness". And Janine Blaeloch of the Western Land Exchange Project in Seattle said that the support of CounterPunchers "was an honor and made a real difference for us". We encourage you to help these fine groups in whatever way you can.

Blue Ridge Environmental
Defense League
PO Box 88
Glendale Springs, NC 28629
Phone: 336-982-2691
http://www.bredl.org/

Medical incinerators, chip mills, hog farms, nuclear power plants, hazardous waste burners masquerading as cement kilns, and the Savannah River nuclear weapons plant: the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League takes them all on and wins a good share of the engagements. Working in rural and disadvantaged areas, BREDL is a model grassroots organization: Each community group solves pressing local problems by developing a citizens' campaign with goals, strategies, activities, and assessments. The issues center on industry's dependence on toxic chemicals; utilities' refusal to adopt sound energy alternatives; industrial development and highway construction at the expense of public health; intensive livestock operations' effects on agriculture and the environment; and huge waste dumps.

Among the groups' abundant campaigns these stand out: Their Nuclear Waste Watch campaign notched up a victory when North Carolina withdrew from the Southeast Low-level Radioactive Waste Compact, ending the possibility of an eight-state dump in Wake County. Their Health Care Without Harm coalition advocates policies to eliminate the indiscriminate incineration of medical waste, which in turn means a change in the purchasing and materials management practices of hospitals and purchasing groups; also support for local campaigns to oppose medical waste incinerators and to reform local hospitals.

Central Committee for
Conscientious Objectors
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Junior ROTC programs are sprouting around the country. They're now in over 2800 high schools. Along with JROTC we now have the poverty draft. The Pentagon spends $2 billion on recruitment. They entice youth into the military with promises of college and job training.

The Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors has been in business since 1948, helping people who get caught in the military's net. CCCO still help them get out, the same way they helped people get out of the horror of Vietnam. Despite the military's yearly recruiting budget of $1.9 billion, activists in local communities have gained some astounding organizing victories. Three school districts ban recruiters entirely; in dozens more, activists give alternative presentations in classrooms and on career days. The military's Adventure Van was stopped from making visits to schools in the entire state of Minnesota. A peace flotilla greets the Navy's Great Lakes Recruiting Cruise every year.

More than 200,000 young people enlist in the military every year. Those who made a mistake don't know where to turn. CCCO also operates a GI Rights Hotline. In the year 2000, CCCO and its partners on the GI Rights Hotline answered 11,800 calls from members of the military seeking information about discharges, grievance and complaint procedures and other civil rights. They also publish Helping Out: A Guide to Military Discharges and GI Rights, the most comprehensive reference work on military discharges in print.

Citizens Opposed to Defense
Experimentation (CODE)
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Alaska has been the site of various nuclear experiments since the Cold War. Through 'Project Plowshare,' in which the US Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) sought to develop "peaceful" uses of the atom, Project Chariot was proposed in 1958 for the area near Cape Thompson in northwest Alaska. It would have employed a series of nuclear explosions in order to carve a harbor large enough for ships to dock in order to load fossil fuels expected to be found in the area. Local Alaskan Natives were not informed of the project's potential dangers and when they did discover what was going on, they vigorously opposed it. Solicitor General for the State of Alaska Ted Stevens signed off on the project. Stevens is now the senior Senator from Alaska and an ardent proponent of NMD. Citizen opposition eventually stopped 'Project Plowshare.' Yet, even after the project had been canceled, radioactive waste was brought from Nevada and spread over the tundra to see how it would drain into water. This waste was left there and simply plowed over, leaching in the middle of prime caribou hunting ground. They didn't bother to clean up the poisonous mess until 1992.

CODE formed in 1999 to put a stop to the continued use of Alaska as a site for military experiments, and specifically to organize Alaskans into a unified opposition to the National Missile Defense system that President Clinton was testing. Coalition members come mostly from religious and citizen action groups. After the Bush Administration and Pentagon officials announced their plans to begin construction on Ft. Greely in August, 2001 and their desire to launch test missiles from Kodiak, CODE members called a press conference to denounce these moves.. CODE 's goal is to produce a ground swell of public opinion against the missile

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defense system in Alaska, thus forcing the nation as a whole to rethink this lunatic investment of resources. By showing Alaskans the many and varied faults of NMD, CODE hopes to galvanize citizens in a firm opposition to the system, propelling Alakaska's powerful Congressional delegation to end its support of this project, favoring instead the clean-up of over 600 federal and military toxic sites that pollute Alaska, jeopardizing the subsistence lifestyle of rural residents, most of whom are Alaska Natives.

Footworks Dance Ensemble
385 Chestnut Trail,
Crownsville, MD 21032
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Email: info@footworks.org

For 22 years, Footworks has been the premier fulltime dance company performing, teaching, preserving and enriching the great traditions of American percussive dance —Appalachian, Afro-American and Celtic. Touring coast-to-coast and throughout Europe, Footworks has excited everyone from inner city schoolkids to adult folkdance connoisseurs with their vibrant approach to clog, step, hambone and tap dancing. A tax deductible nonprofit, they conduct a very fine public school outreach program and formal classes from beginner to master level. Contributions will help their dream of establishing a permanent school for traditional percussive dance.

Legal Services for Prisoners
with Children
100 McAllister St
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: 415-255-7036
info@prisonerswithchildren.org
http://www.prisonerswithcildren.org

Founded in 1978, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children (LSPC) has provided leadership in challenging the expansion of the prison industrial complex and the concomitant damage that this expansion has wrought on low income communities and on women and their children specifically. Until then, few organizations nationwide dealt with issues affecting prisoners' families. Thus LSPC focusses on the specific legal and social policy issues affecting incarcerated mothers and their children, parents in prison, and family members caring for the children of incarcerated parents. The organization has a history of successful advocacy abd also works with clients to develop their own advocacy skills.

Living Rivers
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http://www.livingrivers.net

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the river-killing U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, a new group is challenging the agency as never before. Living Rivers is leading the charge to protect the Southwest's threatened rivers and even tear down or breach many of the destructive, pork-barrel dams that have driven species to extinction and laid waste some of the region's most beautiful canyons.

The Bureau's last big dam proposal is on the Animas River near Durango, Colorado. This project threatens to drain water from the river to fill up a massive storage reservoir for which no need exists. Native fish species and ancient Indian cultural sites and graves are all under threat. Living Rivers is leading a coalition of grassroots groups to expose the corruption behind the project and halt the dam.

A new Living Rivers campaign for 2002 is the Green River Canyons National Park. First mapped by John Wesley Powell in 1869, the Green River is a wilderness lovers' delight. Living Rivers' proposal will protect more than 500 miles of river corridor, and remove two dams to let the river flow freely again, from headwaters to mouth.

Living Rivers is also playing a key role in pressuring the federal government to take action to protect the Colorado River's once-spectacular delta region just below the border in Mexico. US water users currently consume 90 per cent of the river's flow, wasting much of it in inefficient, subsidized irrigation projects. Living Rivers' is waging a campaign to get 1 per cent of the river's flow dedicated to restoration of the delta.

November Coalition Foundation, Inc.
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http://www.november.org

Nora Callahan's brother, Gary, had been imprisoned for about seven years when he asked her to organize prisoners with their loved ones to oppose the drug war. That was 1997, and by that time Nora had learned that a five-year prison sentence was considered crushing in any other country, and the US was just about to take title of World's Leading Jailer. Nora's brother had 22 such crushing years left to serve.

Nora formed the November Coalition to work on her brother's behalf and on behalf of more than a half million souls struggling to survive in our nation's gulags. The November Coalition works on behalf of those who have been released from prison back to broken and dispersed families. "A drug arrest in any family quickly becomes a frightening introduction to conspiracy statutes, government's liberal use of informants, guideline-sentencing laws, and the nightmare usually leaves defendant and family confused and full of despair," Nora Callahan says. "Long-term imprisonment has dramatic effects on personality and personal relationships. Prisoners suffer from severe restrictions on their human and constitutional rights, and all of these difficulties exact a toll on both the prisoner and those who love them."

People Organized To Win Employment Rights (POWER)
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www.communitiesunitedforpeople.or/enlance/power.html

POWER, founded in 1995, is a commu-

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nity based membership organization in San Francisco which organizes low-wage and no-wage workers to fight for full employment and living wages. POWER mainly organizes through one-to-one contact at worksites, neighborhoods, SRO hotels and housing projects. They have a staff of 6 full and part-time workers and a group of 20 dedicated leaders that makes up the steering committee of the organization.

Currently, POWER has two campaigns: single men and women on General Assistance who have traditionally been assigned to jobs in the public sector without getting equal pay and parents with children (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families), who are being forced into low wage jobs in both the public and private sectors as well as in non-profits. POWER is currently working on the passage of a public jobs program (Working and Gaining Employment Security) which would function as a bridge from welfare to work. Time worked would be counted as experience and WAGES participants would be paid a living wage with benefits. At the end of the training program, 30 per cent of any new public sector jobs would be reserved for WAGES graduates. Similarly, the parent's (CalWORKS) recipients have also created their own WAGES program that demands $17 per hour, benefits, and childcare. POWER is also working in a coalition with community, religious and labor groups for the passage of a city-wide Living Wage Ordinance.

Support Coalition International
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http://www.MindFreedom.org

The roots of Support Coalition International go deeply into the psychiatric survivors' liberation movement itself, which came directly out of the civil rights ferment of the late 1960s and early 1970s. The description "psychiatric survivors" is used by individuals who have endured human rights violations in the mental health system. In the past 30 years, many grassroots groups working for those labeled with mental disabilities have sprung up nationally and internationally. However, since the mid-1980's many of these groups became primarily federal or state funded, and therefore their militancy is hobbled

In late 1988, leaders from several of the main national and grassroots psychiatric survivor groups decided an independent coalition was needed. They formed Support Coalition International. The first action of SCI was a counter-conference and protest in New York City in May 1990, at the same time as the American Psychiatric Association's huge annual meeting. The initial coalition had 13 organizations. Today, Support Coalition International unites more than one hundred grassroots organizations in 14 nations.

SCI has been one of the main groups to challenge forced psychiatric human rights violations, such as involuntary electroshock, restraints, solitary confinement and psychiatric drugging. SCI has published the MindFreedom Journal (formerly "Dendron News") since 1987, reaching approximately 25,000 people. The Journal is the main activist publication in this field. Recently, SCI successfully applied for Consultative Roster Status with the United Nations.

Texas Center for Documentary Photography
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Austin, Texas 78702
Phone: 512-478-8387
Email: apogue@texas.net
www.documentaryphotographs.com

For over thirty years, Alan Pogue, director of the Texas Center for Documentary Photography, has been photographing social and political movements in Texas and around the world. The focus of Alan's work includes migrant laborers, prison conditions and criminal justice, Cuba, culture and conflict in the Middle East, and Iraq under sanctions as well as other topics centered on efforts of peace and social betterment.

Alan began his career as a photographer while serving as a chaplin's assistant and combat medic in Vietnam. After returning from Vietnam in 1968 Pogue was jailed three times for anti-war activities. In 1972 he began photographing prison conditions for the Austin Prison Coalition. Pogue's photographs were used in the Ruiz vs. Estelle federal suit against the Texas prison system, a landmark case that brought to light the overcrowding, corruption and brutality within the Texas prison system.

Pogue recently returned from Iraq where he worked with Veterans For Peace in a campaign to repair water treatment facilities and raise international awareness of the suffering caused by U.S./U.N sanctions. An exhibit from his ongoing work with Voices In the Wilderness is touring nationally CP

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